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ABSTRACT

This annotated bibliography describes 119 books without words for children. Listed are such books as "The Package," "The Wrong Side of Bed," "Elephant," "I See a Song," "The Very Long Tail," "Chimp and Chump," "Christmas Kitten," "Rolling Downhill," "Sunnyside Up," "Adventures of Paddy Pork," "Jacko," "Naughty Nancy," and "A Flying Saucer Full of Spaghetti." In addition to the brief annotations, the name of the author, title, publisher, and date are provided. Most books were published in the 1970s. (TS)

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TOO GOOD FOR WORDS:

An Annotated Bibliography of Wordless Children's Books

by

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BOOKS WITHOUT WORDS

1. Alexander, Martha, Bobo's Dream, Dial Press, 1970.
   This is the story of a black child and his dog. The dog dreams that he grows in size and is able to help his master.

2. _____, Out, Out, Out, Dial Press, 1963.
   A pigeon flies in through a kitchen window and causes chaos until a little boy takes over and calmly solves the problem for the panicked adults.

3. Amoss, Berta, By the Sea, Parents Magazine Press, 1969.
   The adventures of a boy and a dog are illustrated with small cartoon drawings. One of the adventures takes the characters into the air by kite and a balloon. Then they make a rapid decent into a sand castle that they rebuild.

4. Anderson, Laurie, The Package, Bobbs-Merrill Co., 1971.
   This is a mystery story done with black and white pen and ink drawings. It is difficult to follow and understand.

5. Angel, Marie, The Ark, Harper&Row, 1970.
   Not really a book but more of a fold-out strip with pictures of animals.

6. Anno, Mitsumasa, Anno's Alphabet, Thomas Y. Crowell Co., 1975.
   Each letter of the alphabet looks as if it is carefully made of wood. Look again. Something is wrong with each letter. The letters are matched with an unusual picture and the border contains small pictures of things that begin with the letter.

7. _____, Dr. Anno's Magical Midnight Circus, Weatherhill, 1972.
   This book has one page of explanation at the beginning. It is pure fantasy that stretches the imagination. A clown takes the reader on a tour of all of the circus acts.

8. _____, Topsey Turvies, Weatherhill, 1970.
   Another imagination stretcher. This book has strange out of this world pictures and situations such as the ceiling being the floor.

9. Ardizzone, Edward, The Wrong Side of Bed, Doubleday&Co., 1970.
   This is a story about a little boy who has a bad day. His family is mad at him for spilling milk and repping his pants. To make up for his mistakes the boy takes his mother some flowers.

10. Aruego, Jose, Look What I Can Do, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1971.
The book begins with one water buffalo saying to another, "Look what I can do". The second animal immitates the first and they have fun until they drop from exhaustion. At this point a third water buffalo arrives on the scene and says "Look what I can do". This is basically a wordless book except for the first and last pages.

11. Asch, Frank, Blue Balloon, McGraw-Hill, 1972.
A most unusual book. A boy has a balloon and it pops. The boy puts the balloon back together. Next the string pops and gets put back together. Finally the little boy pops and the balloon cries. The tears make a flower grow.

12. _____, In the Eye of the Teddy, Harper&Row, 1973.
This is the story of a child's world as seen through the eyes of a teddy bear.

13. Barton, Byron, Elephant, Seabury Press, 1971.
A story about a little girl who dreams about imaginary elephants.

14. Baum, Will, Birds of a Feather, Addison-Wesley Publishing, 1969.
A classic tale of pride and its fall. A small bird wishes to be different. He dresses up with hat feathers and is captured and put in a cage. When he takes off the feathers he is set free. Bright full color pictures.

15. Billout, Guy, The Number 24, Dial Press, 1973.
Story of a day dreaming man waiting for a bus. Numerous vehicles travel by him, each one colliding with the one in front of it. It shows that no amount of diseaster distracts this programmed modern man from his routine. Above the capacities of most children.

16. Bolliger-Savelli, Antinella, The Knitted Cat, Macmillan Co., 1972.
A little girl knits a kitten but forgets to finish the tail. The cat walks around with a dangling string tail until the girl finishes her knitting.

17. Carle, Eric, Do You Want to Be My Friend, Thomas Y. Crowell Co., 1971.
A mouse is out looking for a friend but is asking all big animals. Finally the little mouse finds another mouse for a friend.

18. _____, I See A Song, Thomas Y. Crowell Co., 1973.
A story of a musician playing his violin. Bright colored forms begin to flow from his instrument and as his mood changes so do the forms coming from the violin.

19. _____, My Very First Book of Colors, Thomas Y. Crowell Co., 1974.
Each page is cut into two parts. The top half is for colors and the bottom is of different objects. The idea is to flip through the pages and match the color to the correct object.

20. _____, My Very First Book of Shapes, Thomas Y. Crowell Co., 1974.
This book operates on the same principle as My Very First Book of Colors described above.

21. _____, The Very Long Tail, Thomas Y. Crowell Co., 1972.
This is a long fold out book. A tiny mouse follows a huge green tail looking for a friend. Each page introduces another tail. The page must be turned to see what animal the tail belongs to. Names of animals are printed on the back of each picture.

22. _____, The Very Long Train, Thomas Y. Crowell Co., 1972.
A fold out book featuring a train carrying different animals.

23. Carrick, Donald, Drip Drop, Macmillan Co., 1973.
Story of a drop of water that enters a house through a leak in the roof. The drop passes by the baby and wakes up the dog. On a sunny day the leak in the roof is fixed.

24. Carroll, Ruth, Chimp and Chump, Reynal, 1933.
Monkeys escape from the zoo cage and get into mischief before being caught.

25. _____, Chimp and the Clown, Henry Z. Walck, 1968.
A chimp dressed up as a baby is marching in a circus parade with a clown. The chimp gets away and has many adventures before the clown catches up with him.

26. _____, Christmas Kitten, Henry Z. Walck, 1970.
A kitten gets into the Christmas tree and the family tries to get her out.

27. _____, The Dolphin and the Mermaid, Henry Z. Walck, 1974.
A story about a mermaid, a dolphin, and their friends. The tranquility of the sea is interrupted by a diver, who captures the mermaid, and by a polluting family.

28. _____, Rolling Downhill, Henry Z. Walck, 1973.
A kitten and a puppy get tangled up in a ball of yarn. They are carried through ponds, forests, and other animals homes. Lots of action.

29. _____, What Whiskers Did, Henry Z. Walck, 1965.
A dog runs away and is chased into a rabbit hole. He makes friends with the rabbits and then returns home.

30. _____, The Witch Kitten, Henry Z. Walck, 1973.
A kitten takes the witch's broomstick and goes for a ride but encounters troubles.

31. Chamberlin, Bob, and Bergman, Donna, I'm Not Little I'm Big, Puppet Press, Seattle, Washington, 1973.
A very different book that uses little cloth finger puppets that are attached to the book. Two puppets take turns being little and big. Puppets can be manipulated on any of the pages. Drawings are done in black and white.

32. Charlot, Martin, Once Upon A Fishook, Weatherhill, 1972.
A boy catches a small fish which in turn is swallowed by a larger more colorful fish, etc. Finally they all fall off his hook and he is left with a small dull fish.

33. _____, Sunnyside Up, Weatherhill, 1972.
The story of a boy, a chicken and an egg. This story is difficult to follow and understand.

34. Elzbieta, Little Mops and the Butterfly, Little Mops and the Moon, Little Mops at the Seashore, Doubleday&Co., 1974.
A series of easy to follow simple stories.

35. Espenscheid, Gertrude. The Oh Ball, Harper&Row, 1966.
The story of how a ball loses and regains its freedom in the courtyard of a prince.

36. Fromm, Lilo, Muffel and Plumbe. Macmillan Co., 1973.
A lion and a rabbit are room mates. This is the story of their friendship. It is done in black and white cartoons.

37. Fuchs, Erich, Journey to the Moon, Delacorte Press, 1969.
Story about an astronaut and his space trip. All done in the abstract.

38. Goodall, John, Adventures of Paddy Pork, Harcourt Brace World, 1968.
A pig runs off to join the circus. He has several adventures and finally returns home. Done in black and white.

39. _____,The Ballooning Adventures of Paddy Pork, Harcourt Brace World, 1969.

A pig sets out on a ballooning trip and has a series of adventures before returning to a joyout welcome home. Half pages are used to extend the action.

40. _____, Creepy Castle, Atheneum, 1975.
A brave mouse and his lady find a deserted castle and decide to go in for a look. A hidden villain locks them in. A lot of excitement and action takes place before the two escape. Half pages extend the action.

41. _____, Jacko, Harcourt Brace World, 1971.
A complex tale using half pages to extend the action. Jacko id a monkey befonging to an organ grinder. Jacko escapes and has an adventure with a ship and some pirates.

42. _____, The Midnight Adventures of Kelly, Dot, and Esmeralda, Atheneum, 1972.
A toy bear, a rag.doll, and a toy mouse step into the landscape picture and travel down rivers to a village fair. The mouse is caught and the others must save her.

43. _____, Naughty Nancy, Atheneum, 1975.
Nancy is the flower girl in her sister's wedding. The little mouse innocently causes one crisis after another at the elegant affair. A funny tale told with half pages.

44. _____, Paddy's Evening Out, Atheneum, 1973.
A clumsy pig falls into the orchestra pit at a theater performance and spends much time and effort trying to get out of the spot light.

45. _____, Shrewbettina's Birthday, Harcourt Brace World, 1970.
The exciting events of a birthday party, from a stolen purse to a gala party are told.

46. Hamburger, John, A Sleepless Day, Four Winds Press, 1973.
An exhausted owl flees his home after it is struck by lightening. He goes out looking for a new home and after some difficulty moves in with another owl.

47. Hartelius, Margaret, The Chicken's Child, Doubleday&Co., 1975.
A humorous book about a chicken who finds a lost egg and settles down to hatch it. To her surprise it turns out to be an alligator. The alligator causes numerous problems on the farm as he grows until one day when he saves the life of the hen and then becomes one of the "family".

48. Hoban, Tana, Circles, Triangles and Squares, Macmillan, 1974.
A first lesson in basic geometry done with photographs. Reader locates geometric figures in common objects.

49. _____, Look Again, Macmillan Co., 1971.
A very outstanding book done with black and white photographs. In front of each photograph is a blank page with a square cut in it, thus revealing a small portion of the photograph. After each photograph is another of the same object but taken at a distance. It is a lot of fun trying to guess what the photographs are by looking through the small square hole.

50. _____, Count and See, Macmillan Co., 1972.
A counting book using black and white photographs. An excellent book.

51. _____, Shapes and Things, Macmillan Co., 1970.
White shapes on a black background are used here. The various items included are kitchen utensils, sewing items and food items.

52. Hogrogian, Nonny, Apples, Macmillan Co., 1972.
A boy and animals eat apples and drop cores in the field and an orchard slowly grows there.

53. Hutchins, Pat, Changes Changes, Macmillan Co., 1971.
Dolls and their blocks build a house. There is a fire so they use the blocks to build a fire engine. Too much water causes a flood so they re-arrange the blocks into a boat and so it goes until they have a new house.

54. Hoest, William, A Taste of Carrot, Atheneum, 1967.
A rabbit learns how good a carrot tastes but then has difficulty getting carrots.

55. Kent, Jack, The Egg Book, Macmillan Co., 1975.
An optimistic hen, who wants a baby chick, sits on a variety of found eggs. She hatches a turtle, an alligator, and an ostrich until she finally gets the right egg and her baby chick.

56. Krahn, Fernando, A Flying Saucer Full of Spaghetti, E. P. Dutton, 1970.
The flight of a saucer of spaghetti from a little girl who doesn't want it to a little girl who really needs it.

57. _____, How Santa Claus Had A Long And Difficult Journey Delivering His Presents, Delacorte Press, 1970.
Santa takes off in his sleigh but the harness snaps leaving sled and all in the snow. Several failures at take-off cause frustration. Finally some angels arrive and carry the sleigh to a roof top where the reindeer are waiting.

58. _____, Journeys of Sebastian, Delacorte Press, 1968.
Three separate fantasy adventures of a little boy. This abstract book is done mostly in black and white.

59. _____, The Self Made Snowman, J. B. Lippincott, 1974.
A snowman is formed as a small ball of snow gets larger as it rolls downhill. The snowman enters the town just in time for the holiday festivities. He is decorated with a wreath and joins the people for a jolly Christmas.

60. Lemke, Horst, Places and Faces, Scroll Press, 1971.
Double page pictures of a variety of places and people offer children a chance to use their imagination. Places include the zoo, an airport, a train station, the beach, a playground, a store, and a farm. Each picture is full of things to look at.

61. Lisker, Sonia, Attic Witch, Four Winds Press, 1973.
Sent to her room a little girl and her cat climb to the attic where they meet a witch. The witch invites them to enter a morror and they emerge in a cave full of Halloween paraphernalia. They have some wild adventures together before the story abruptly ends with the girl asleep in her bed.

62. _____, Lost, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1975.
A little boy becomes fearful and confused when he is separated from his parents while on an outing at the zoo.

63. Mari, Iela, The Apple and the Moth, Pantheon Books, 1970.
The story follows a worm and an apple through metamorphorsus.

64. _____, Chicken and the Egg, Pantheon Books, 1970.
A hen lays an egg and later it hatches.

65. _____, The Magic Balloon, S. G. Phillips, 1969.
A boy blows up a balloon but it gets away. The balloon changes into an apple, butterfly, flower and finally an umbrella which the boy then gets.

66. Mayer, Mercer, Bubble, Bubble, Parents Magazine Press, 1973.
A boy buys a magic bubble-maker and blows fantastic bubbles in the shapes of cars, boats, and animal monsters.

67. _____,A Boy, A Dog, and A Frog, Dial Press, 1967.
Boy and his dog go out to catch a frog but the frog keeps getting away. Finally they give up but then the frog is unhappy because he really wanted to be caught. The frog follows the boy home and joins him in the bathtub.

68. _____, A Boy, A Dog, A Frog, and A Friend, Dial Press 1971.
The adventures of a boy, his dog, and a frog. In this book they add a friend turtle. Full of fun and action.

69. _____ Frog Goes to Dinner, Dial Press, 1974.
The boy and his family go to a fancy restaurant. Frog stows away in the boy's pocket. The frog causes a number of diseasters during dinner.

70. _____, Frog On His Own, Dial Press, 1973.
The adventures of the frog in the park. Frog is caught by a cat but his friend the boy rescues him.

71. _____, Frog Where Are You, Dial Press, 1969.
The boy and dog lose their frog and look everywhere for him. They have various adventures until they get the frog back.

72. _____, The Great Cat Chase, Four Winds Press, 1975.
A cat in a baby carriage rebels in his dress-up game with a little girl. The cat escapes. The little girl is helped in the chase after the cat by a little boy dressed up as a policeman.

73. _____, Mine, Dial Press, 1970.
This book has two words - yours and mine. This is the story of a grabby little boy who is eventually rebuffed.

74. _____, Two Moral Tales, Four Winds Press, 1974.
First story is titled "Bears New Clothes" and is about a scavenging bear who dresses himself in discarded finery and is satisfied until he meets someone fancier. Second story is "Birds New Hat". Two bird advasaries seek to outwit each other over a hat.

75. _____, Two More Moral Tales, Four Winds Press, 1974.
First story is "Just a Pig at Heart" and is about two well dressed pigs who wallow in a mud hole. Second story is "Sly Fox's Folly" and is about a dishonest salesman who is outwitted by a clever customer.

76. Meyer, Remate, Hide and Seek, Bradbury Press, 1972.
A girl in red tries to find a boy in blue who hides in a tree, a barn, a house, and a garden.

77. _____, Vicki, Atheneum, 1969.
The story of a lonely girl who makes a friend.

78. Miller, Barry, Alphabet World, Macmillan Co., 1971.
Alphabet book utilizing photographs that have in them letter shapes. Uses overlay pages to show where the letter is found.

79. Mitgutsch, Ali, In The Busy Town, Golden Press, 1973.
A big "Golden Book" with busy, busy pictures. Lots to look at.

80. Mordillo, Guillermo, Damp and Daffy Doings of a Daring Pirate Ship, Harlin Quist, 1971.
Story of a merry band of buccaneers and their pirate ship. An excellent story with a moral. The colors are bright and bold. An overall excellent book.

81. McPhail, David, Oh No Go, Little, Brown&Co., 1973.
A fantasy about a boy and a girl who float in a balloon. After their balloon collapses they set up a theater.

82. Macmillan, Face to Face Books, Macmillan Co., 1973.
Three photo stories in a series showing how children in different parts of the world live.

83. Olschewski, Alfred, Winterbird, Houghton Mifflin, 1969.
Black and white pen and ink drawings show a bird out for a walk in the snow. He leaves foot prints. A cat follows the bird and then a dog follows the cat. All leave their foot prints. When the bird calls for help he is assisted by many birds who chase off the preditors.

84. Ramage, Corinne, The Joneses, J.B. Lippincott, 1975.
An unusual story about a family of thirty one which includes a dragon. The father of the story keeps house while the mother drives a submarine for a living. The story is of a "typical" day in their strange life.

85. Reich, Hanns, Animals of Many Lands, Hill and Wang, 1966.
Black and white photographs showing just what the book title suggests.

86. _____, Baby Animals and Their Mothers, Hill and Wang, 1964.
Black and white photographs showing just what the title says.

87. _____, Cats, Hill and Wang, 1965.
Black and white photographs of cats.

88. _____, Children and Their Fathers, Hill and Wang, 1962.
Black and white photographs showing children and their fathers.

89. _____, Children and Their Mothers, Hill and Wang, 1958.
Black and white photographs showing children and their mothers.

90. _____, Children of Many Lands, Hill and Wang, 1958.
Black and white photographs showing just what the title suggests.

91. _____, Dogs, Hill and Wang, 1973.
Black, white and color photographs of dogs.

92. _____, Flight, Hill and Wang, 1971.
Black and white photographs showing birds and airplanes in flight.

93. _____, Horses, Hill and Wang, 1967.
Black and white photographs showing horses.

94. _____, Laughing Camera, Hill and Wang, 1969.
Black and white photographs. Older children and adults will find the pictures amusing.

95. _____, Laughing Camera II, Hill and Wang, 1969.
Another book for older children done with black and white photographs. The pictures are very amusing.

96. _____, Laughing Camera for Children, Hill and Wang, 1970.
Black and white photographs that will amuse children.

97. _____, Lovers, Hill and Wang, 1968.
A book for older children and adults done with black and white photographs.

98. Reiss, John, Shapes, Bradbury, 1974.
A concept book of easily recognizable examples of shapes. Two humerous animal characters build three dementional figures. Humerous and bright.

99. Remington, Barbara, Boat, Doubleday and Co., 1975.
A wordless story about the building of a boat.

100. Rice, Brian and Evans, Tony, English Sunrise, Flash, 1973.
The sunrise shape, one half of an oval basically, is found in every picture from car upolstery to gates and fences. This book is geared more toward adults and older children.

101. Rinkoff, Barbara, Red Light Says Stop, Lothrop, 1974.
An introduction to the methods on non verbal communication.

102. Ringi, Kjell, The Magic Stick, Harper&Row, 1968.
Line drawings done in three color pictures, reveal the magic that children find in common things.

103. _____, The Winner, Harper&Row, 1969.
Two baldheaded little practitioners of friendly one-upmanship accidently bring about their own destruction.

104. Roberts, Thom, The Barn, McGraw-Hill, 1975.
Story of a city couple who convert an old barn into a dream home.

105. Ross, Pat, Hi Fly, Crown, 1974.
A girl becomes the size of a fly and sees her home from the flys point of view.

106. Schick, Eleanor, Making Friends, Macmillan Co., 1969.
Black and white drawings with yellow touches. Story of a boy who makes friends with animals and insects. He and his mother meet friends at the park.

107. Sesame Street Book of Numbers, Little, Brown and Co., 1970.
Shows numbers one through ten with corresponding pictures. Also shows a cartoon countdown from ten to one. Book contains an adult section in the back with different ideas on how to best use the book.

108. Shortall, Leonard, One Way: A Trip With Traffic Signs, Prentice-Hall, 1975.
A book suitable for young children showing traffic signs and safety rules. It is an all picture chronicle of a holiday outing.

109. Simmons, Ellie, Cat, McKay, 1968
Black and white drawings bordered with a red flowering vine. Black kitten follows a girl home from school and she gets to keep the kitten for her own.

110. _____, Dog, McKay, 1967.
A cute story of a little child who gets a new puppy.

111. _____, Family, McKay, 1970.
The story of a family of three that becomes a family of four. The mother in the story has a baby. The sister stays with her grandmother.

112. _____, Wheels, McKay, 1969.
A little boy who is anxious for wheels of his own goes to a county fair with his dad. The boy sees all kinds of wheeled vehicles but encounters frustration when later trying to build a vehicle. Dad comes along to save the day with a tricycle.

113. Sugano, Yoshikatsu, The Kittens Adventure, McGraw-Hill, 1971.
Originally published in Japan, this is a book of photographs showing a white fluffy kitten discovering the mysteries in a roll of felt.

114. Sugita, Yutaka, Good Night 1,2,3, Scroll Press, 1971.
A printed number corresponds with objects presented by a little child. Each number receives a beautiful double page. All done in bright colors. Originally printed in Japan.

115. _____, My Friend Little John and Me, McGraw-Hill, 1973.
Large full color pictures tell of a boy and his Saint Bernard dog. There is no real story line but instead happy pictures of the two enjoying each other. First published in Japan.

116. Ueno, Noriko, Elephant Buttons, Harper&Row, 1973.
A stuffed elephant unbuttons its stomach and another animal pops out which then unbuttons its stomach to

reveal another and so it goes.

17. Ungerer. Tomi, One, Two, Where's My Shoe, Harper&Row, 1964.
This is a game of hide and seek. Each picture has a shoe or shoes hidden in it and the idea is for the reader to locate the shoes. Very clever and well done.

118. Ward, Lynd, The Silver Pony, Houghton Mifflin, 1973.
A lonely farm boy discovers a winged horse and has four adventures. He escapes his lonely life and becomes a hero. Strictly imaginary.

119. Wezel, Peter, Good Bird, Harper&Row, 1966.
A bird brings a worm and shares it with a fish in a bowl.